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cont.

20.(added) The display device of claim 18, wherein column conductors associated with a partition which is adjacent an edge of the display terminate at the respective edge.

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REMARKSArt rejection - US 6,456,281 (Rindal)

To the extent that the rejection over Rindal might be maintained against the original or added claims, reconsideration is requested because nothing in Rindal teaches nor suggests that each of the column conductors should be partitioned such that each column partition intersects fewer than all the rows.

In accordance with the instant invention, each column is divided into n partitions each of which has a respective column driver; and each row driver may drive one row, or may drive n rows, one in each partition.

15 Applicant respectfully traverses the statement in the fifth and sixth last lines on page 2 of Paper No. 6, that Rindal "shows the breaking of the column conductor (770) ... into a number of sub-cell units." (emphasis supplied)

Rindal teaches a different approach. Instead of partitioning each of the columns individually, Rindal Fig. 27 partitions the display into subcells each of which includes a plurality of full length columns. In the embodiment of Fig. 24 a single data driver 710 propagates a signal along display conductor 740, having a respective delay element 730 between each of the 853 column tap conductors 770 and the next column tap conductor (col. 18, lines 54-59). Lines 32-33 of col. 22 point out that this arrangement requires very powerful drivers. The solution suggested is Fig. 27. Instead of one display conductor 740 feeding all the 853 columns, the display is partitioned into 54 sub-cells each having its own display conductor 740 comprising approximately 16 columns and approximately 16 corresponding column conductors (col. 22, lines 33-40) (54 x 16 = 854, so one sub-cell must have only 15 columns). Separate drivers may be provided for each sub-cell, thereby reducing the current from a sub-cell load driver 715 (col. 22, lines 40-46).

Accordingly Rindal does not render claim 1 unpatentable.

30 Regarding claims 3 and 4, applicant points out that Fig. 13 does not show a plurality of row

conductors. Rather element 2200 is a delay line covering the entire matrix. It does not serve to activate all the columns of a row at one time, as does a row conductor.

CONCLUSION

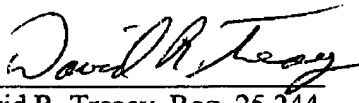
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All the claims are shown to be patentable. Early favorable action on the merits of the application is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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